

Lesson 20. Recreational Security

Lesson Purpose

To provide an overview of crime prevention strategies while camping or boating, as well as to teach about securing recreational equipment.

Learning Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Describe key crime prevention strategies while camping or boating.
- List security measures to protect recreational equipment.
- Practice safety precautions for recreational activities.

Materials

Presentation: Recreational Security

Handout(s): *"Recreational Security"*

Supplement: Display newspaper and magazine articles about recreational security topics, or strategies for preventing crime while at recreational sites.

Related Resources

National Crime Prevention Council, www.ncpc.org

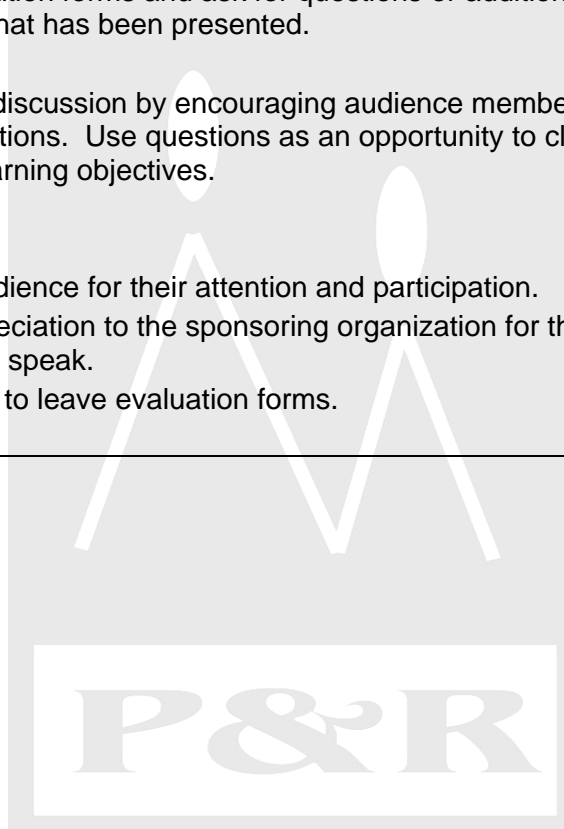
Lesson Plan

Time	Main Points	Slide
Introduction		
5 min.	Recreational activities are great fun. Don't let your fun be ruined by crime.	1 - 2
	Briefly describe a local crime associated with recreation/recreational equipment.	
	Today, we'll talk about strategies for crime prevention while camping or boating, as well as ways to effectively secure your recreational equipment.	2
	Distribute handout: <i>"Recreational Security"</i>	
Presentation		
8 min.	Camping Tips <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Avoid camping alone in isolated areas.▪ Park your vehicle so it cannot be blocked.▪ Familiarize yourself with local emergency locations and phone numbers.▪ Avoid leaving your camping gear out in the open, unattended.	3

Time	Main Points	Slide
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get to know your neighbors and help protect each other's belongings. ▪ Avoid walking alone at night. ▪ Carry a spare lock so you can use storage containers available at many parks. ▪ Use a chain and lock to secure things like propane tanks, extra fuel tanks, portable generators, spare tires, bicycles, etc. 	4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Always lock your camping trailer when you leave the vicinity. ▪ Install a locking device on the trailer towing hitch, so your trailer cannot be towed away. ▪ Before taking weapons with you, be aware of regulations. In many parks and wildlife refuges, weapons are against the law. ▪ Report any suspicious activities and all crimes to the proper authorities — in parks, the park ranger; on private land, the sheriff or police. 	5
6 min.	<p>When Boating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Never overload your boat beyond recommended capacity. ▪ Never leave your keys aboard. ▪ Always moor your boat with a chain or cable. ▪ Secure outboard motors with special transom bolts or clamping screw locks. ▪ Consider leaving your engine out of commission when you are away. ▪ Before leaving your boat moored, secure all removable items. ▪ Never leave fishing equipment unattended. 	6
8 min.	<p>Vehicle Security</p> <p>Park your vehicle within eyesight of your group, or someplace where it can be watched, or arrange for someone to drop you off and pick you up later. Other prevention techniques are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If you must leave valuables in your vehicle, place them in the trunk — not under the front seat or hidden under clothing. ▪ Be cautious that you are not being observed when putting valuables in your trunk. ▪ Install a locking hood latch. 	7
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Install an alarm device which will activate a siren, horn or lights to frighten thieves away. ▪ Equip your vehicle with locking lug nuts to prevent your wheels from being stolen. ▪ Install a battery-locking device to prevent the battery from being stolen. 	8

Time	Main Points	Slide
4 min.	Mark your Property! Equipment is vulnerable to theft. Mark it with a permanent number or symbol and keep a record of it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mark your tent, sleeping bags and clothing with permanent ink markers. ▪ Engrave your food locker, thermos, coolers, lamps and flashlights — and don't forget fishing poles, tackle boxes, backpacks, barbecue grills, snorkels and fins. 	9
4 min.	Safety Precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Be sure everyone in your party is aware of park/campground rules and regulations. ▪ When hiking, backpacking or cross-country skiing, notify the ranger or campground host of your plans. ▪ Consider having everyone carry a whistle to use in case of an emergency. 	10
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Never let vulnerable members of your group wander off by themselves, or leave them unattended near a body of water. ▪ Global Positioning Systems are increasingly being used. ▪ If you are being annoyed by a discourteous person(s), report the person(s) to the police or park ranger. 	11
2 min.	Summarizing: (briefly highlight each area discussed) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ While camping. ▪ When boating. ▪ Vehicle security. ▪ Securing your equipment. ▪ Safety precautions. 	12
Practice/feedback		
10 min.	Have participants review the list of recreational security strategies in their handout. Ask them to place a checkmark (✓) beside the things they now do and to place an asterisk (*) beside the things that they need to begin to do. Give participants 5 to 7 minutes to complete this review. The instructor should circulate among the participants during this time. Conclude the activity by asking 2 or 3 volunteer participants to share what they learned from the review. The instructor should reinforce prevention strategies and key learning points.	13

Time	Main Points	Slide
Evaluation		
10 min.	<p>Set-up</p> <p>We have a few minutes for questions and additional discussion. While we're doing that, we have a brief evaluation form we'd like for you to complete and leave with us. Your name is not required, but your feedback is very important. It will help us improve our presentation and program.</p> <p>Distribute evaluation forms and ask for questions or additional comments on what has been presented.</p> <p>Promote group discussion by encouraging audience members to help respond to questions. Use questions as an opportunity to clarify and reinforce key learning objectives.</p> <p>Wrap-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thank the audience for their attention and participation. ▪ Express appreciation to the sponsoring organization for the opportunity to speak. ▪ Remind them to leave evaluation forms. 	14



20. Recreational Security

Please tell us what you think about this lesson by circling the numbers that most closely reflect your opinions.

After this lesson . . .	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a) I know more crime prevention strategies to use while camping.	1	2	3	4
b) I know more crime prevention strategies to use while boating.	1	2	3	4
c) I can identify security measures to protect recreational equipment.	1	2	3	4
d) I am better prepared to take safety precautions while engaging in recreational activities.	1	2	3	4
About this lesson . . .				
e) The information presented was valuable.	1	2	3	4
f) The lesson was presented in a clear and understandable manner.	1	2	3	4
g) Lesson activities and discussion were helpful.	1	2	3	4
h) I would recommend this lesson to others.	1	2	3	4

What was the most valuable thing you learned?

Please give one example of how you plan to use the information presented in this lesson.

How could this lesson be improved?

